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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/970,184

10/04/2001

Taiji Hosaka

AIA-110/DIV

2261

7590

05/19/2006

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EXAMINER

SUN, SCOTT C

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2182

DATE MAILED: 05/19/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	09/970,184	HOSAKA ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Scott Sun	2182	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 November 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☒ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

### DETAILED ACTION

1. This application is in condition for allowance except for the following formal matters:
2. Claim 1 recites the phrase "the card connection adaptor with the second-standard compliant card is retained in the card retaining space is inserted into the card slot of the card slot connector housing" (emphasis added). The above limitation should be changed to "the card connection adaptor with the second-standard-compliant card retained in the card retaining space is inserted into the card slot".
3. Claim 1 further recites the phrase "at least substantially contained ... in a manner to prevent inadvertent disconnection" (emphasis added) which is an erroneous description of the invention. According to the specification (paragraphs 97 and 98), the card is contained in the card slot connector housing and the card connector adapter in a manner to prevent inadvertent disconnection, therefore the above limitation should be changed to "at least contained ... in a manner to prevent inadvertent disconnection."
4. Claims 2-15 are objected to because of their dependence on claim 1.
5. Examiner notes that applicant's representative, Carl Schaukowitch, was contacted on 5/11/2006 to discuss modification to the claims to overcome the minor informalities. However, an immediate agreement was not reached because of applicant's location and time zone.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

6. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: prior art of record does not teach nor suggest the limitation, in combination with other limitations of claim 1, "a housing which holds the first connector, the second connector and the signal conversion circuitry, the housing having a card insertion port which opens generally perpendicularly to an adaptor insertion direction in which the card connection adaptor is inserted into the card slot of the card slot connector housing" and "wherein, when the card connection adaptor with the second-standard-compliant card retained in the card retaining space is inserted into the card slot of the card slot connector housing, the second-standard-compliant card is at least contained within both the card slot connector housing and the card connector adaptor in a manner to prevent inadvertent disconnection of the second-standard-compliant card from the card connector adapter while inserted in the card slot".

7. Examiner notes that the direction "generally perpendicular to the adaptor insertion direction" is interpreted as "a direction parallel to upper and lower faces of the card-shaped adaptor" according to paragraph 21 of the disclosure.

***Conclusion***

8. Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

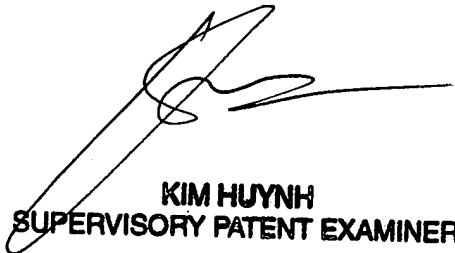
A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Scott Sun whose telephone number is (571) 272-2675. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 10:30am-7pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim N. Huynh can be reached on (571) 272-4147. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

SS  
5/12/2006

  
**KIM HUYNH**  
**SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER**

5/12/06